

Special Issue – Journal of Mental Health Law

The possible fusion of incapacity and mental health legislation is considered in depth in a 'Special Issue' of the Journal of Mental Health Law.

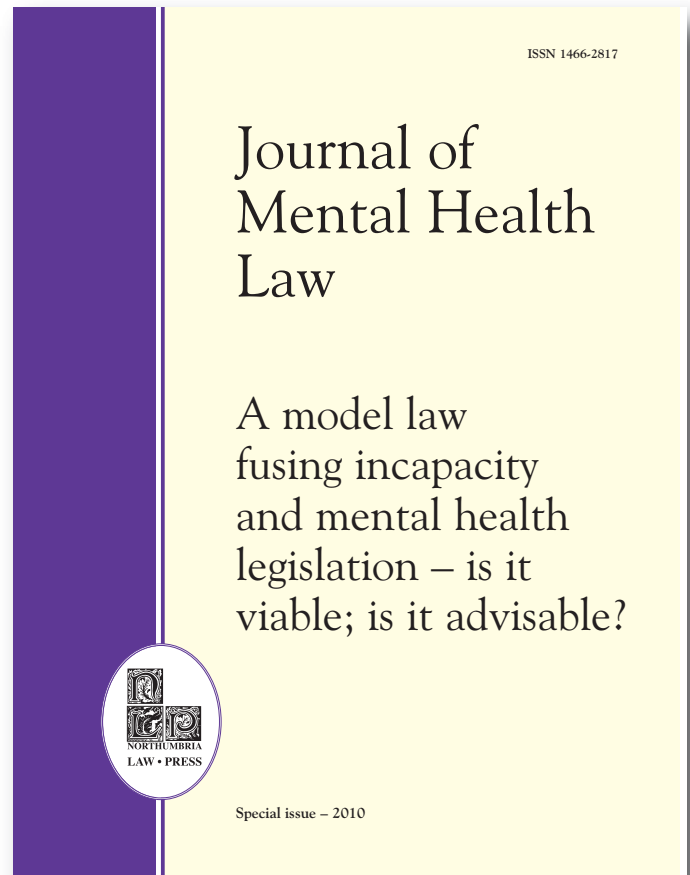
The case for fusion is presented by *Professor George Sz mukler* (Professor of Psychiatry and Society, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College, London), *Rowena Daw* (Head of Policy, Royal College of Psychiatrists) and *Professor John Dawson* (Professor of Law, University of Otago, New Zealand) who then describe the structure of a model statute designed to demonstrate the legislative feasibility of the fusion project.

Authoritative and thought-provoking commentary is provided by:

- *Professor P. Appelbaum* (Professor of Psychiatry, Medicine and Law, Columbia University, USA) and *Professor T. Burns* (Professor of Social Psychiatry, University of Oxford): the underlying rationale;
- *Professor Alec Buchanan* (Associate Professor, Law and Psychiatry, Yale University, USA) and *Kris Gledhill* (Barrister and Senior Lecturer, Law School, University of Auckland, New Zealand): the interface with the criminal justice system;
- *Robert Robinson* (Solicitor and part-time Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (mental health)): the role of the tribunal;
- *Professor Anthony Holland* (Professor in the Psychiatry of Learning Disabilities, University of Cambridge) and *Aswini Weeraratne* (Barrister and part-time Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (mental health): the safeguards for "informal" patients;
- *Professor Jacqueline Atkinson* (Professor of Mental Health Policy, University of Glasgow) and *Hilary Patrick* (Honorary Fellow, School of Law, University of Edinburgh): the experience in Scotland ;
- *Maura McCallion* and *Ursula O'Hare* (Assistant Directors, Law Centre (NI)): the position in Northern Ireland following the Bamford Review's report, 'A Comprehensive Legislative Framework'.

Szmukler, Daw and *Dawson* provide a response, and the Issue concludes with

- The text of the model statute;
- An overview by *Kris Gledhill* of the law reform debate to date.



“The implementation of the *Mental Health Act 2007* revisions to both the *Mental Health Act 1983* and the *Mental Capacity Act 2005* have illustrated all too clearly the practical difficulties involved in managing the interface between the two parallel structures. This Special Issue provides us with a valuable opportunity to ask whether there is in fact another way.” (*Professor Geneva Richardson* (King's College, London), Guest Co-editor)

This special edition of the Journal of Mental Health Law is due to be published in April 2010 at a cost of £24.99 plus £4.00 postage & packing. If you would like to purchase a copy please complete the application form overleaf.

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